

# T H R

About three *thousand* years ago, navigation of the world for remote voyages was greater than at this day. *Bacon.*

2. Proverbially, a great number.

So fair, and *thousand*, *thousand* times more fair  
She seem'd, when the preient was to fight. *Fa. Qu.*  
For harbour at a *thousand* doors they knock'd,  
Not one of all the *thousand* but was lock'd. *Dryden.*  
Search the herald's roll,  
Where thou shalt find thy famous pedigree,  
Drawn from the root of some old Tuscan tree,  
And thou, a *thousand* off, a fool of long degree. *Dryden.*  
Though he regulates himself by justice, he hides a *thousand*  
occasions for generosity and compassion. *Addison's Spect.*  
How many *thousands* pronounce boldly on the affairs of the  
publick, whom God nor men never qualified for such judg-  
ment. *Watts.*

**THOUSANDTH.** *adj.* [from *thousand*.] The hundredth ten  
times told; the ordinal of a thousand.

He that will divide a minute into a thousand parts, and  
break but a part of a *thousandth* part in the affairs of love, it  
may be said of him, that Cupid hath clapt him o' th' shoulder,  
but I'll warrant him heart whole. *Shakespeare. As you like it.*

Such is the poet's lot: what luckier fate  
Does on the works of grave historians wait:  
More time they spend, in greater toils engage,  
Their volumes swell beyond the *thousandth* page. *Dryden.*  
The French hugenots are many thousand witnesses to the  
contrary; and I wish they deserved the *thousandth* part of the  
good treatment they have received. *Swift's Miscel.*

**THOWL.** *n. f.* A piece of timber by which oars are kept in  
their places when a rowing. *Ans.*

**THRALL.** *n. f.* [from *thral*, Saxon.]

1. A slave; one who is in the power of another.  
No *thralls* like them that inward bondage have. *Sidney.*  
But still the will the conquest challenge need,  
Let her accept me as her faithful *thrall*. *Spenser.*  
Look gracious on thy prostrate *thrall*. *Shakespeare.*  
The two delinquents  
That were the slaves of drink, and *thralls* of sleep. *Shak.*  
I know I'm one of nature's little kings;  
Yet to the least and vilest things an *thrall*. *Davies.*  
That we may so suffice his vengeful ire,  
Or do him mightier service, as his *thralls*  
By right of war, whate'er his business be. *Milton.*

2. Bondage; state of slavery or confinement.  
And laid about him, till his nose  
From *thrall* of ring and cord broke loose. *Hudibras, p. i.*

**TO THRALL.** *v. a.* *Spenser.* [from the noun.] To enslave;  
to bring into the power of another.  
Let me be a slave to achieve the maid,  
Whose sudden sight hath *thrall'd* my wounded eye. *Shak.*  
Statefmen purge vice with vice, and may corrode  
The bad with bad, a spider with a toad.  
For so ill *thralls* not them, but they tame ill,  
And make her do much good against her will. *Denne.*  
The author of nature is not *thrall'd* to the laws of na-  
ture. *Drommond.*

**THRALLDOM.** *n. f.* [from *thrall*.] Slavery; servitude.  
How far am I inferior to thee in the state of the mind?  
yet know I that all the heavens cannot bring me to such  
*thrall'dom*. *Sidney, b. i.*

He swore with sobbs,  
That he would labour my delivery.  
—Why, so he doth, when he delivers you  
From this earth's *thrall'dom* to the joys of heav'n. *Shakespeare.*  
This country, in a great part desolate, groaneth under the  
Turkish *thrall'dom*. *Sandys.*  
He shall rule, and live in *thrall'dom* live. *Dryden.*  
They tell us we are all born slaves; life and *thrall'dom* we  
entered into together, and can never be quit of the one till  
we part with the other. *Locke.*

**THRATTLE.** *n. f.* The windpipe of any animal. They still  
retain it in the Scottish dialect.

**TO THRASH.** *v. a.* [from *thraschen*, Saxon; *derfchen*, Dutch.]

1. To beat corn to free it from the chaff. This is written va-  
riously *thrash* or *thrash*, but *thrash* is agreeable to etymology.  
First *thrash* the corn, then after burn the straw. *Shakespeare.*  
Gideon *thrashed* wheat to hide it. *Judge, viii. 11.*  
Here be oxen for burnt sacrifice, and *thrashing* instruments  
for wood. *2 Sam. xxiv. 22.*

In the sun your golden grain display,  
And *thrash* it out, and winnow it by day. *Dryden.*  
This is to preserve the ends of the bones from an inca-  
pacity, which they being hard bodies would contract from  
a swift motion; such as that of running or *thrashing*. *Ray.*  
Out of your clover well dried in the sun, after the first  
*thrashing*, get what seed you can. *Martimer.*

2. To beat; to drub.  
Thou art a valiant ass! thou art here but to *thrash* Tro-  
jan, and thou art bought and sold among those of any wit  
like a barbarian slave. *Shakespeare. Troil. and Cressida.*

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**TO THRASH.** *v. n.* To labour; to drudge.  
I rather wou'd be Mevius, *thrash* for rhimes  
Like his, the scorn and scandal of the times,  
Than that Philippick fatally divine,  
Which is inscrib'd the second, should be mine. *Dryden.*

**THRASHER.** *n. f.* [from *thrash*.] One who thrashes corn.  
Our soldiers, like a lazy *thrasher* with a flail,  
Fell gently down, as if they struck their friends. *Shakespeare.*  
Not barely the plowman's pains, the reaper's and *thrasher's*  
toil, and the baker's sweat, is to be counted into the bread  
we eat: the labour of those employed about the utensils must  
all be charged. *Locke.*

**THRASHING-FLOOR.** *n. f.* An area on which corn is beaten.  
In vain the binds the *thrashing-floor* prepare,  
And exercise their flails in empty air. *Dryden.*  
Delve of convenient depth your *thrashing-floor*  
With temper'd clay, then fill and face it o'er. *Dryden.*

**THRASHING.** *adj.* [from *Thrash*, a boaster in old comedy.]  
Boastful; bragging.  
His humour is lofty, his discourse peremptory, his general  
behaviour vain, ridiculous, and *thrashing*. *Shakespeare.*  
There never was any thing so sudden but the sight of two  
rams, and Caesar's *thrashing* brag of, I came, saw, and  
overcame. *Shakespeare. As you like it.*

**THRASH.** *n. f.* [Sax., Saxon.]

1. A herd; a drove. Out of use.

2. The number of two dozen.

**THREAD.** *n. f.* [from *thra*, Saxon; *draed*, Dutch.]

1. A small line; a small twist.  
Let not Bardolph's vital *thread* be cut  
With edge of penny cord and vile reproach. *Shakespeare.*  
Though the slender *thread* of dyed silk looked on single  
seem devoid of redness, yet when numbers of these *threads*  
are brought together, their colour becomes notorious. *Boyle.*  
He who sat at a table but with a sword hanging over his  
head by one single *thread* or hair, surely had enough to check  
his appetite. *South's Sermons.*  
The art of pleasing is the skill of cutting to a *thread*, be-  
twixt flattery and ill-manners. *L'Estrange.*

2. Any thing continued in a course; uniform tenor.  
The eagerness and trembling of the fancy doth not always  
regularly follow the same even *thread* of discourse, but strikes  
upon some other thing that hath relation to it. *Bacon.*  
The gout being a disease of the nervous parts, makes it  
so hard to cure; diseases are so as they are more remote in  
the *thread* of the motion of the fluids. *Arbuthnot.*

**THREADBARE.** *adj.* [from *thread* and *bare*.]

1. Deprived of the nap; wore to the naked threads.  
*Threadbare* coat, and cobbled shoes he wore. *Fa. Qu.*  
The clothier means to dress the commonwealth, and let a  
new nap upon it: so he had need; for 'tis *threadbare*. *Shak.*  
Will any freedom here from you be borne,  
Whose cloaths are *threadbare*, and whose cloaks are torn?  
*Dryden's Jernail.*

2. Worn out; tite.  
A hungry lean-fac'd villain,  
A mere anatomy, a mountebank,  
A *threadbare* juggler, and a fortune-teller. *Shakespeare.*  
Many writers of moral discourses run into stale topics and  
*threadbare* quotations, not handling their subject fully and  
closely. *Swift.*  
If he understood trade, he would not have mentioned this  
*threadbare* and exploded project. *Child in Trade.*

**TO THREAD.** *v. a.* [from the noun.]

1. To pass through with a thread.  
The largest crooked needle, with a ligature of the size of  
that I have *threaded* it with in taking up the spermatick ves-  
sels. *Sharp's Surgery.*

2. To pass through; to pierce through.  
Thus out of season *threading* dark-ey'd night. *Shakespeare.*  
Being prest to th' war,  
Ev'n when the nave of the state was touch'd,  
They would not *thread* the gates. *Shakespeare. Coriolanus.*

**THREADEN.** *adj.* [from *thread*.] Made of thread.  
Behold the *threaden* sails,  
Borne with th' invisible and creeping wind. *Stat.*  
Draw the huge bottoms through the furrow'd sea. *Stat.*

**TO THREAT.** *v. a.* A country word denoting to argue much  
or contend. *Ans.*

**THREAT.** *n. f.* [from the verb.] Menace; denunciation of  
ill.  
There is no terror, Cassius, in your *threats*. *Shakespeare.*  
The emperor perceiving that his *threats* were little regard-  
ed, regarded little to threaten any more. *Hoyward.*

Do not believe  
Those rigid *threats* of death: ye shall not die.

**TO THREAT.** *v. a.* [from *threat*, Saxon: *threat* is seldom  
used but in poetry.]

1. To

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1. To menace; to denounce evil.  
Death to be wish'd  
Though *threaten'd*, which no worse than this can bring. *Milton.*

2. To menace; to terrify, or attempt to terrify, by denouncing  
evil.  
What *threat* you me with telling of the king?  
Tell him and spare not. *Shakespeare. Richard III.*  
That it spread no further, strictly *threaten* them that they  
speak henceforth to no man in this name. *Acts iv. 18.*  
The void profound  
Wide gaping, and with utter loss of being  
*Threaten* him. *Milton.*  
Æneas their assault undaunted did abide,  
And thus to Lausus, loud with friendly *threatning* cry'd. *Dryden's Virgil.*  
This day black omens *threat* the brightest fair,  
That e'er deserv'd a watchful spirit's care. *Pope.*

3. To menace by action.  
Void of fear,  
He *threaten'd* with his long pretended spear.  
The noise increases as the billows roar.  
When rowling from afar they *threat* the shore. *Dryden.*

**THREATENER.** *n. f.* [from *threaten*.] Menacer; one that  
threatens.  
Be stirring as the time; be fire with fire;  
Threaten the *threatener*, and outface the brow  
Of bragging honour. *Shakespeare. King John.*  
The fruit, it gives you life  
To knowledge by the *threat* ne? *Milton's Par. Lost.*

**THREATENINGLY.** *adv.* [from *threaten*.] With menace; in  
a threatening manner.  
The honour that thus flames in your fair eyes,  
Before I speak, too *threatningly* replies. *Shakespeare.*

**THREATFUL.** *adj.* [from *threat* and *full*.] Full of threats; mina-  
cious.  
Like as a warlike brigandine applide  
To fight, lays forth her *threatful* pikes afore,  
The engines which in them sad death do hide. *Spenser.*  
**THREE.** *adj.* [from *three*, Saxon; *tri*, Welsh and  
Etr.; *trei*, Lat.] Two and one.  
Prove this a prosperous day, the *three-nook'd* world  
Shall bear the olive freely. *Shakespeare. Ant. and Cleopatra.*  
If you speak *three* words, it will *three* times report you the  
whole *three* words. *Bacon's Nat. Hist. N. 249.*  
Great Atreus sons, Tydides fixt above,  
With *three* and *three* Nestor.  
Jove hurls the *three-fork'd* thunder from above. *Addison.*  
These *three* and *three* with other bands we ty'd. *Pope.*  
Down to these worlds I trod the dismal way,  
And dragg'd the *three-mouth'd* dog to upper day. *Pope.*  
A trait needle, such as gloves use, with a *three-edged*  
point, useful in sewing up dead bodies. *Sharp.*

2. Proverbially a small number.  
Away, thou *three-inch'd* fool; I am no beast. *Shakespeare.*  
A bafe, proud, shallow, beggarly, *three-suited*, filthy,  
worsted stocking knave. *Shakespeare. King Lear.*

**THREEFOLD.** *adj.* [from *three* and *fold*.] *Three* repeated;  
consisting of three.  
A *threefold* cord is not easily broken. *Ecclesi. iv. 12.*  
By a *threefold* justice the world hath been governed from  
the beginning: by a justice natural, by which the parents and  
elders of families governed their children, in which the obe-  
dience was called natural piety: again, by a justice divine,  
drawn from the laws of God; and the obedience was called  
conscience: and lastly, by a justice civil, begotten by both the  
former; and the obedience to this we call duty. *Raleigh.*  
A *threefold* off'ring to his altar brings,  
A bull, a ram, a goat. *Pope's Odyssey.*

**THREEPENCE.** *n. f.* [from *three* and *pence*.] A small silver coin va-  
lued at three pence.  
A *threepence* bow'd would hire me,  
Old as I am to queen it. *Shakespeare. Henry VIII.*  
Laying a cautick, I made an oar the compass of a *three-  
pence*, and gave vent to the matter. *Wife's Surgery.*

**THREEPENNY.** *adj.* [from *three* and *penny*.] Vulgar; mean.

**THREEPILE.** *n. f.* [from *three* and *pile*.] An old name for good  
velvet.  
I, in my time, wore *threepile*, but am out of service. *Shak.*

**THREPPLED.** *adj. Set with a thick pile; in another place  
it means to mean piled one on another.  
Thou art cool velvet; thou'rt a *threppled* piece: I had as  
lieb be English kexey, as be pil'd as thou art. *Shakespeare.*  
**THRESCORE.** *adj.* [from *three* and *score*.] *Three* twenty; sixty.  
*Threescore* and ten I can remember well. *Shakespeare.*  
Their lives before the flood were abbreviated after, and  
contracted unto hundreds; and *threescore*. *Brown.*  
By chase our long-lived fathers earn'd their food;  
Toil string the nerves, and purify'd the blood;  
But we their sons, a pamper'd race of men,  
Are dwindl'd down to *threescore* years and ten. *Dryden.**

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**THRENDY.** *n. f.* [from *thrend*.] A song of lamentation.

**THRESHER.** *n. f.* properly *thrasher*.  
Here too the *thrasher* brandishing his flail,  
Bespeaks a master. *Dailstry.*

**THRESHING.** See **TO THRASH.**  
The careful ploughman doubting stands,  
Left on the *thrashing* floor his sheaves prove chaff. *Milton.*  
Gideon was taken from *thrashing*, as well as Cincinnatus  
from the plough, to command armies. *Locke on Education.*

**THRESHOLD.** *n. f.* [from *thres*, Saxon.] The ground or step  
under the door; entrance; gate; door.  
Fair marching forth in honourable wife,  
Him at the *threshold* met she well did enterprize. *Spenser.*  
Many men, that stumble at the *threshold*,  
Are well foretold that danger lurks within. *Shakespeare.*  
Not better  
Than fill at hell's dark *threshold* have fit watch,  
Unnam'd, undreaded, and thy self half starv'd? *Milton.*  
Before the stary *threshold* of Jove's court  
My mansion is, where those immortal shapes  
Of bright aerial spirits live inspir'd  
In regions mild, of calm and serene air. *Milton.*  
There fought the queen's apartment, flood before  
The peaceful *threshold*, and belieg'd the door. *Dryden.*

**THREW,** preterite of *throw*.  
A broken rock the force of Pyrrhus *threw*:  
Full on his ankle fell the pond'rous stone,  
Burst the strong nerves, and crash'd the solid bone. *Pope.*

**THRICE.** *adv.* [from *three*.]

1. Three times.  
*Thrice* he assay'd it from his foot to draw,  
And *thrice* in vain to draw it did assay,  
It boot'd nought to think, to rob him of his prey. *Spenser.*  
*Thrice* within this hour  
I saw him down; *thrice* up again and fighting. *Shakespeare.*

2. A word of amplification.  
*Thrice* noble lord, let me entreat of you  
To pardon me. *Shakespeare. Taming of the Shrew.*  
*Thrice*, and four times happy those  
That under Ilian walls before their parents dy'd. *Dryden.*  
**TO THRID.** *v. a.* [this is corrupted from *thread*; in French  
*enfiler*.] To slide through a narrow passage.  
Some *thrid* the mazy ringlets of her hair,  
Some hang upon the pendants of her ear. *Pope.*

**THRIFT.** *n. f.* [from *thrive*.]

1. Profit; gain; riches gotten; state of prospering.  
He came out with all his clowns, hor'd upon such cart  
jades, and so furnished, as I thought with myself if that  
were *thrif*, I wish none of my friends or subjects ever to  
thrive. *Sidney, b. ii.*

You some permit  
To second ills with ills, each worse than other,  
And make them dreaded to the doer's *thrif*. *Shakespeare.*  
Had I but the means  
To hold a rival place with one of them,  
I have a mind prefiges me such *thrif*,  
That I should be fortunate. *Shakespeare. Merchant of Venice.*  
Should the poor be flatter'd?  
No; let the candied tongue lick absurd pomp,  
And crook the pregnant hinges of the knee,  
Where *thrif* may follow fawning. *Shakespeare. Hamlet.*

2. Parsimony; frugality; good husbandry.  
The rest unable to serve any longer, or willing to fall to  
*thrif*, prove very good husbands. *Spenser on Ireland.*  
Out of the present *thrif*, and untimely *thrif*, there grow  
many future inconveniences and continual charge in repairing  
and re-edifying such imperfect slight-built vessels. *Raleigh.*  
Thus heaven, though all-sufficient, shows a *thrif*  
In his economy, and bounds his gift. *Dryden.*

3. A plant.  
The *thrif* is a plant with a flower gathered into an almost  
spherical head, furnished with a common scaly empalement:  
this head is composed of several clove-gillflower flowers,  
consisting of several leaves in a proper empalement, shaped  
like a funnel; in like manner the pointal rises out of the  
same empalement, and afterwards turns to an oblong seed,  
wrapt up in the empalement, as in an hulk. *Miller.*

**THRIFTILY.** *adv.* [from *thrifty*.] Frugally; parsimoniously.  
Cromartie after fourcore went to his country-house to live  
*thrif*ly, and save up money to spend at London. *Swift.*

**THRIFTINESS.** *n. f.* [from *thrifty*.] Frugality; husbandry.  
If any other place you have,  
Which asks small pains but *thrif*iness to save. *Hubberd.*  
Some are censured for keeping their own, whom tender-  
ness how to get honestly teacheth to spend discreetly; whereas  
such need no great *thrif*iness in preserving their own, who  
assume more liberty in exacting from others. *Watson.*

**THRIFTLESS.** *adj.* [from *thrif*.] Profuse; extravagant.  
They in idle pomp and wanton play  
Consum'd had their goods and *thrif*less hours,  
And thrown themselves into these heavy flowers. *Spenser.*